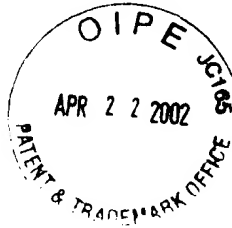


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of  
Andreas BURGARD *et al.*

Serial No. 09/749,136  
Filed: December 27, 2000



5/A  
05-01-02  
PATENT  
Docket No. 00/141 NUT *W*

Group Art Unit: 1761  
Examiner: Leslie A. Wong

For: **SALTS OF L-AMINO ACIDS HAVING IMPROVED TASTE AND THEIR  
PREPARATION**

**RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.142**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Charlotte, North Carolina  
April 10, 2002

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 22, 2002, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claims 7 - 9.

**REMARKS**

Restriction has been required to limit the invention to the Claims of one of the following groups:

Group I: Claims 1 - 6, drawn to a salt of a basic-reacting amino acid, classified in class 426, subclass 548.

Group II: Claims 7 - 9, drawn to a process for preparing a compound, classified in class 560, subclass 40.

The Examiner is of the opinion that the claims of Group I and II define different inventions. In order to be fully responsive to the Official Action, Applicants elect to retain the claims of Group

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I for further prosecution in the subject case, but Applicants retain the right to file one or more divisional applications or take other appropriate action to protect the invention lying within Group II.

The inventors Andreas Burgard and Glenn Roy are all inventors in the claims drawn on Group I.

Should Examiner Wong have any questions regarding the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted

Klaus Schweitzer  
see limited recognition on file

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